

An Eloquent Budget Request Speech

*Written and presented by
C. E. Campbell Beall, Chairman
West Virginia Library Commission.*

*Heard by the House and Senate Finance
Committees of the West Virginia Legislature,
February 5, 1976.*

I was first appointed to the Library Commission in 1965 by Governor Smith—I was reappointed in 1971 and again in 1975 by Governor Moore. This is my ninth appearance before your Committee. This same room has been used for all of those hearings, and many of you have been here for all of the hearings.

My appeal here today for increased support for public libraries is the same as it was nine years ago. Progress has been made by and for public libraries during this time, but nine years ago we were almost at zero point. Relatively speaking, we are not much better off today, and we ask ourselves some very pertinent questions, and at the same time, we ask you some very pertinent questions.

Why is it that we who represent public library users have such a difficult time claiming victories with not only you, as budget makers for the State, but at every budget hearing—whether it be State, County, or Municipal? Is it that libraries are a fraud inasmuch as they are not used? If this were so, you

would be justified by not hearing our request. Is it that libraries have no political appeal—such as roads, or no glamour—such as the Hall of Fame?

It is true that public libraries cause few headlines . . . it is true that libraries generate no revenue, and once they are built and operating, that they fit snugly in the community and are rarely heard from. But this does not mean that they are not performing a vital public service, nor does it mean that they are not used! In Martinsburg, the Public Library is the most used public facility in the City. As for the political impact of public libraries, this is untested to date.

Actually, hardly any candidate will speak against the library—and only a few will speak for it. Thus, libraries find themselves in a political limbo, but the people in the State who do not have adequate library service quietly suffer . . . In West Virginia, these people are called the silent majority. We look forward to the day when some one of you will take the floor and proclaim your allegiance and support of public libraries, even on a political basis.

The Library Commission request for 1976-77 is \$1.43 per capita for direct aid to the public library of your community. This is vital money to your library, and all of the libraries of the State. It is the cash that keeps the doors open, but this is not all we are trying to do.

We are trying to develop a program that is, and has proven to be, the only consistent and continuing adult education program in most communities. We are today, as we have for nine years, trying to impress upon you the idea that money spent at state level for library service is money invested in a direct service to all people. The value of spending this money is hard to see . . . hard to find . . . has no direct return . . . but serves the people . . . and that is what we all are here to do.

Our budget request includes \$3.1 million for construction of library buildings. If patterns of the past continue, this will be matched at local level. We cannot deny the need for construction money at this stage of our development—it provides the incentive and the faith for unserved areas.

The most important funds are service funds. You see, it is comparatively easy to build a building, but to sustain it, to operate it, to develop and maintain a program is the hard, very hard part. This is why the \$1.43 per capita for service is so vital.

Someday, our appeals to you will come easier; someday our job of selling this project will become less of an effort on our part. If this happens, you will have made it so.

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Grand Opening Clarksburg-Harrison Public Library

On December ninth, Governor and Mrs. Arch Moore participated in the dedication of the new library in Clarksburg. Calling the structure a tremendous facility, he sagely commented, "A library is more than bricks and mortar. You can't build them and walk away." He concluded that "State aid of \$2.00 per capita should be found to ascertain that they were properly stocked with books."

Serving as Master of Ceremonies for the occasion was Trustee James M. Jarvis. Out-of-state dignitary in attendance was Don Whitehead of the Appalachian Regional Commission. Introducing Governor Moore was John McCuskey, member of the House of Delegates from Harrison County. C. E. Campbell Beall and Frederic Glazer represented the Library Commission.

The architectural features of the building include glassed in areas on two sides of the building providing view of Pike Street and of Waldomore, the former site of the library. There are two garden areas, one for adults and one for children.

The facility, which required nineteen months to construct, was designed by Marcel Breuer and Associates of New York and the general contractor was Millon Stuart of Fairmont.

Funding for the \$1,367,000 library came from West Virginia Library Commission, the Appalachian Regional Commission, the Library Services and Construction Act, the Benedum Foundation, the City of Clarksburg, and the Clarksburg-Harrison Cultural Foundation.

The librarian, Miss Merle Moore, and the Trustees, Mrs. Ralph Douds, Mrs. Mary Curtin, Robert Stemple, Mrs. Michael Audia, and James Jarvis, deserve a round of applause.

A New Crop of Instant Libraries

The Executive Director pulled several rabbits out of his hat when he applied for a Title X grant under the Public Works and Economic Development Act and came out with \$126,000. These funds make it possible for many of the smaller, very poor communities to qualify for a building if they can supply an approved site and guarantee an operating income. The big disadvantage is the cumbersome paper work which is entailed with this type of construction, e.g., flood evaluation of sites, environmental assessments, wage regulations.

An intense interest in obtaining one of these octagonal prefab buildings is showing all across the State. *Green Bank*, location of Pocahontas County Free Library's main branch, expects to build a unit on Route 28, just south of the Radio Astronomy Observatory. This will replace obsolete rented quarters. The town of *Ansted*, near Hawks' Nest, expects to build their shell on a picturesque lot which boasts a weeping willow tree and is located across from the bank's parking lot. Fayette County Library will operate Ansted as a branch.

Marsh Fork, a mining community northwest of Beckley, boasts a champion of the Instant Library idea, Roger Ash. This enthusiastic coal miner succeeded in getting the Board of Education to offer a site on the high school and Vo-Tech campus and then persuaded the Raleigh County Library to take the library as a branch. (Since Beckley is trying to complete its new main library, this was no easy trick.)

Piney Fork, a new library in Wetzel County, expects to move out of the basement of a bank to a new carousel library. In adjoining Tyler County, the county seat library has been located in a very old house in *Middlebourne*. The trustees expect to have a more economical unit in the instant design.

In the southern areas of the State which have been served by Book Express trailers, there is widespread interest. Mayor Joy Vance, of *Chapmanville*, in Logan County, has several organizations from Kiwanis to Garden Club, to Citizens Band Radio group solidly behind the new library. It will be located on the main street in area adjoining the new Appalachian Corridor which had been set aside for a town park.

Leaders in *War*, an isolated town south of Welch, are seeking a site and funding under the direction of Luella Dye of the Mercer County Service Center. Mayor Osby Harvey of *Peterstown* had promised his town an Instant Library if he were elected. He is locating the library next to city hall and has lined up operating funds from the Monroe County Court.

Two rival towns in Jefferson County in the eastern panhandle, *Bolivar* and *Harper's Ferry*, have joined forces to share the cost of operating an Instant Library. The building will be located in Bolivar.

Two hundred guests attended a gala Open House at the new Mason City Instant. This library is comfortably located on property next to the Virgil Lewis House, a museum commemorating West Virginia's famous historian. All told, weather and inflation permitting, there should be at least twenty-four instant carousels on the Mountain State landscape by the end of seventy-six.

The Changing Scene Among Library Staff

The Friends of the Marion County Library paid tribute to Mrs. Ruth Early, their librarian, on her retirement after twelve years of service. Mrs. Early, who founded the Friends Group ten years ago, says that she is most proud of the new stack room and the remodeled lobby which all of them helped to make a reality. (Editor's note . . . it is easily the most stunning interior face-lift we have seen yet.) The tribute was a dinner given in Mrs. Early's honor.

Succeeding Mrs. Early at the Marion County helm is *Thomas Dunham*, a graduate of the University of Alabama's School of Library Science. He has most recently served on the staff of the prison library for women in Delaware, Ohio. (Tom, a former H & R Block man, immediately set up an income tax display and reports he's attracting new patrons with a few tidbits of advice.)

Mason County and Fayette County have both welcomed new librarians in January, 1976. *William A. (Bill) Muller*, a graduate of Emory University, came to Point Pleasant by way of Savanna, Georgia. Most recently a municipal research librarian, he has also had experience in managing a small regional library in Georgia. Mr. Muller's mission in Point Pleasant is to complete the planning for a new half million dollar building and organize a complete county library system.

Fayette County Library welcomes *Mrs. Jane Colberg*, a December graduate of Arizona State University's School of Library Science at Tucson. She and her husband have settled on a farm near Fayetteville which will be convenient for her work as extension librarian.

Michael Farley, a Beckleyite who recently trained at the University of Kentucky, is the new cataloger at Raleigh County Public Library. The new cataloger at Ohio County is *Valerie Morgan*, a graduate of the Library and Informational Science School of the University of Pittsburgh.

Personnel shifts at the Kanawha County Library include the transfer of *Mrs. Helen Miller*, formerly supervisor of extension, to direct the St. Albans branch. *Robert Willits*, who was serving as extension head, resigned and has been replaced by *Marilyn Long*, who has been children's librarian at Saint Albans. Congratulations to *Joel Stern* who is now assistant to Nick Winowich at Kanawha County. Brand new staff at the Capitol Street library are *Tom Wrenn*, recent graduate of Pittsburgh's School of Library Science, now serving as librarian for the home bound. Replacing Mr. Stern in Service to the Handicapped is *Chris Hartmann*. Manager for the new Cross Lanes branch is *James Yatsko*.

Cabell County faced up to several changes with the resignation of *Mrs. Minnie Madsen*, who was for many years the manager of the Gallagher Village branch. Her replacement is *Mary DeSantis*. The new supervisor of extension is *Carol Reynolds*, who has a Masters Degree in Speech and English from Miami University.

Mrs. Ellen Bone, who has been head librarian at Louis Bennett Library in Weston, has resigned to attend Graduate School at Florida State University.

Vienna Library Dedicated

In a Sunday ceremony, January 25, the Vienna Public Library dedicated its new \$320,000 public library.

Frederic Glazer, Executive Director of the West Virginia Library Commission, was the speaker commenting that "It is the legitimate responsibility of state government to see that everybody has access to a library as fine as this one."

Program participants included Dr. Bernard Vanderbeck giving the invocation and introductions and greetings by Harry H. Esbenshade, Jr., President of the Vienna Library Board. Responses were given by Curtis Uhl, Mayor of Vienna, Victor Raftery, President of the Wood County Commission, Dr. Samuel Bailey, Superintendent of the Wood County Schools.

Attendance could be described as "wall to wall" people with at least 500 dropping by in the afternoon. Marie Wood of the newspaper staff reported "that if you waited long enough, almost everyone you knew showed up."

Charles Ross of Parkersburg was the architect for the building and Brooks Wigginton of Wheeling was the landscape architect. Grimm Construction Company of Vienna was the prime contractor. Ground was broken in April, 1975, using \$175,000 from the Library Commission, \$60,000 of city and county revenue sharing and private contributions. One side of the building features a panoramic view of the Ohio River.

The seven days following the opening were designated as Library Week. A goal of 5,000 registration was set and achieved. The new librarian is Cheryl Ann Flagg, graduate of Shepherd College, who comes to the challenging post with six years experience in the Martinsburg Public Library.

The dedications of two other new facilities, Putnam County Library (February 8) and Parkersburg - Wood County Public Library (February 15), will be covered in the next issue.

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Lip Service . . . An Information Referral Program at Beckley

If a Raleigh County resident doesn't know where to go or whom to see about a problem, then he should see John Dickson, special projects librarian, who is in charge of the *Library's Information Phone Service*. Dickson has compiled an index file on 1,000 subjects from A to Z. The service does not attempt to solve the person's problem. It merely puts the person in touch with a person or specialist who may be able to help him. The program is being advertised with bookmarks distributed through restaurants, service clubs, hospitals, and the Welcome Wagon.

Community Lecture Series Receiving Good Trial This Season

In addition to Clarksburg's well publicized series of lectures sponsored by the Committee for Humanities and Public Policy which features current fiction authors of note, three other libraries are trying their wings at the old Chataqua scheme . . . all have fine auditorium areas. "Lunch With Books" is being sponsored by the Friends of the Ohio County Library. Interested persons are invited to come and bring their lunch. The program starts at 12:15 and lasts only thirty minutes. They hope to attract downtown workers from offices. The first guest book reviewer was Dr. Paul Elbin, President Emeritus of West Liberty State College, discussing his new book, "Paradox of Happiness".

City-County Library of Moundsville offered a series of lectures on Legal Problems . . . Saturdays at 2:00 p.m. Topics included "Wills and Estates", "Legal Rights of Property Owners", and "Legal Rights of Women".

Tuesday evenings, at 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., the South Charleston Library is launching a series called, "What's Going On in Your Community?". The program includes presentations by the Mayor, the City Treasurer, Charleston Consumer Protection Specialist, Changing Concepts in Medical Care, Spiritual Values in the Community, Crime and Delinquency, Changing Concepts in Education and Recreation.

Report on Sixtieth Annual Meeting, West Virginia Library Association

A banner registration of 350 filled the assembly rooms at the Lakeview Country Club in Morgantown at the October Convention. Largest attendance was at the Friday luncheon where 405 dined. In addition to a program emphasis on West Virginia Heritage, the Association presented more than the usual number of special awards. Governor and Mrs. Arch Moore were honored for their unusual contribution to furthering the cause of libraries. John Scott, librarian of West Virginia State College, was honored for his long service to the profession. Virginia Perry received the Dora Ruth Parks Award for unusual devotion to librarianship.

Five public library trustees with long years of service had passed away during the past year. Citations commemorating the following library board members were included in the Convention packet: John A. Jones of Weirton, John B. Ray of Charleston, Samuel Solins of Welch, Carl B. Tenney of Stonewall Jackson Regional Library at Buckhannon, and Mrs. Mary Murtha of Paden City.

New officers elected at the

Convention included: Donald E. Riggs of Bluefield, President; Mrs. Barbara Bonafili of Morgantown, First Vice President; Ruth Ann Powell of Fairmont, Second Vice President; Karen Goff of Charleston, Secretary; Dave Childers of St. Albans, Treasurer.

Baby Beef Winner Benefits Kingwood Library

Prize is an apt word for a Baby Beef (better known as a steer) winner at the 34th Annual Buckwheat Festival. The owner, Nancy Folliffe, received \$750 from the Albright National Bank. In turn, Marvin Ware, of Ware Chevrolet, bought the animal and donated \$750 to the library.

Three Crises Averted

Revealing the sad state of their finances, three public libraries in the last six months were forced to threaten reduction of services. First, *Kingwood* Public in August had to stage an emergency campaign to keep doors open. Five thousand dollars was raised to develop a cushion on which to operate. Then *Morgantown* discovered that their budget had a salary pinch which would result in closing evenings. The Friends of the Library there rallied to the emergency, raising \$5,000.

At Keyser, the Potomac Valley Regional Bookmobile developed the need for major repairs in late October which the library could not afford, so the service to Mineral, Hampshire, Hardy, and Grant Counties was suddenly discontinued. With special grants from the Library Commission, Mary Handlan and her staff are replacing mobile service with mail out service and adding branches at Baker in Hardy County and Fort Ashby in Mineral County.

The following REVOLUTIONARY RESOLUTION has been proposed by Governor Arch Moore and endorsed by gubernatorial candidate, James Sprouse. Please inform all of your elected officials of the importance this legislation holds for the future of West Virginia Libraries.

U R G E N T

Governor Arch A. Moore, Jr., announced Monday, February 9, 1976, that the Public Library Support Amendment to the State Constitution has been proposed and offered to the Legislature in an effort to let the people of West Virginia determine whether public libraries in the State should be financed annually from profits from the already enacted State Liquor Tax.

No new taxation is proposed--this is just an authorization for use of existing profits from the sale of liquor to assure that the public libraries receive yearly the monies necessary to provide the best possible service to all West Virginians.

West Virginia's public libraries have long lagged far behind the rest of the nation in public library support, due to the lack of specified funding. The Public Library Support Amendment will dedicate a source of funds which will assure that the people not be denied public library service.

*The Resolutions as introduced merely seek Legislative concurrence to let the people of West Virginia decide whether there should be fully supported public library programs using State money.

The Amendment would be of pioneering significance in the development of public libraries in America, and would be an unequalled accomplishment in the history of public libraries as a free institution for all people.

West Virginia, which gave the nation the first Instant Library and the State-wide Borrower's Card, is again demonstrating national leadership in its Libraries to the People Program.

*We have included this, Senate Joint Resolution No. 19. The identical resolution has been introduced also on February 11, in the House of Delegates by Mr. Seibert and is House Joint Resolution No. 28.

See resolution — other side

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 19

(By Mr. Rogerson)

(Introduced February 11, 1976; referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.)

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of West Virginia, irrevocably dedicating a percentage of the profits from all alcoholic liquor sales by the State for the support of public libraries in the State of West Virginia; numbering and designating such proposed amendment; and providing a summarized statement of the purpose of such proposed amendment.

Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia, two-thirds of all the members elected to each House agreeing thereto:

That the question of ratification or rejection of an amendment to the Constitution of the State at the next general election to be held on the first Tuesday in November, one thousand nine hundred seventy-six or at any special election held prior thereto, for the purpose of presenting to the voters of the State the question of ratification or rejection of one or more constitutional amendments, which proposed amendment is as follows:

PUBLIC LIBRARY SUPPORT AMENDMENT

Fifty percent of all receipts from the sale of alcoholic liquor in the State in excess of the requirements of the operating fund, the license fee, and additional sales tax imposed by the provisions of chapter sixty of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, and in effect on the date of ratification of this amendment, shall be irrevocably dedicated and used for the support of public libraries in the State of West Virginia. Such funds shall be transferred by the treasurer to the West Virginia Library Commission and used and expended for such library support purposes as may be identified by the West Virginia Library Commission and such use shall include but not be limited to new library construction, library expansion and library renovation; library staffing; library equipment and materials; and library operation: Provided, That grants shall be made to existing library units, designated by the West Virginia Library Commission on the basis of a per capita dollar amount which shall be no less than that which is being received by such library units at the time of ratification of this amendment.

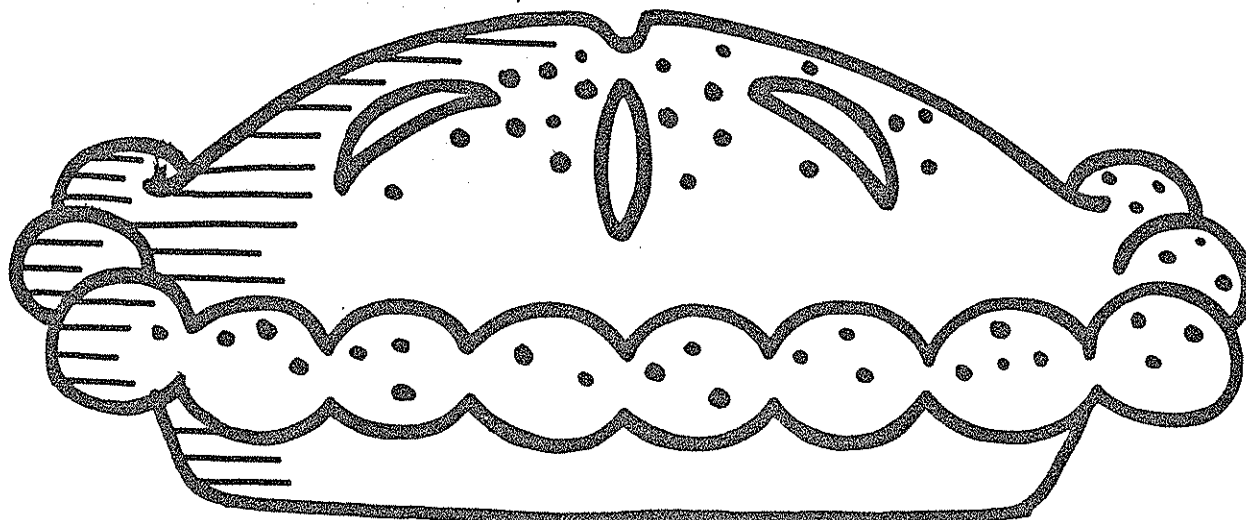
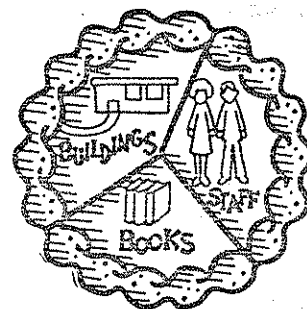
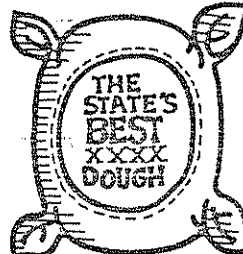
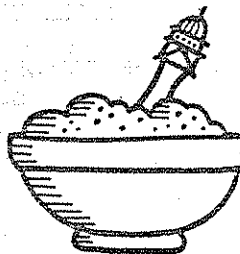
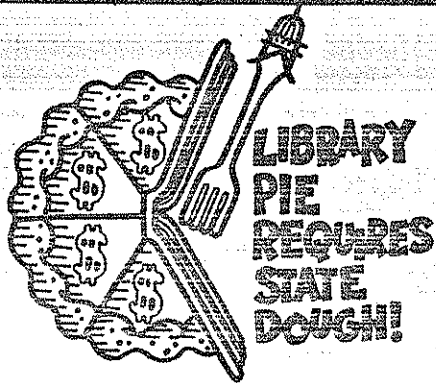
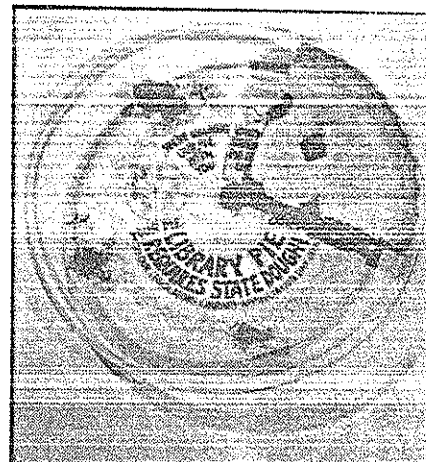
Resolved, further, That in accordance with the provisions of article eleven, chapter three of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, such proposed amendment is hereby numbered "Amendment No. 2" and designated as the "Public Library Support Amendment," and the purpose of the proposed amendment is summarized as follows: "To irrevocably dedicate a percentage of profits from all alcoholic liquor sales for the support of public libraries."

NOTE: The purpose of this Constitutional Amendment is to use percentage of profits from alcoholic liquor sales for the support of public libraries in the State of West Virginia.

**"Out of the Dark Ages and into the light
...if only we can get to the passage."**

Frederic J. Glazer, February 12, 1976

The first step in making Library Pie for all West Virginians is to KNEAD the dough. Library supporters from all over the State unanimously expressed the fact that libraries NEED the "state dough" to get our pie off the back burner and into the oven. Legislative Senate and House Finance Committees listened to an impressive line-up of speakers which included: (photo 1) Roger Ash, coal miner and organizer of the future Marsh Fork Library, whose straight-shooting vocal persuasion won lots of praise, interest, and undivided attention. He is pictured with Raleigh County neighbors, Delegate Jackie Withrow and Librarian Mary Louise Graham. (photo 2) Frederic J. Glazer, Executive Director of the West Virginia Library Commission, who answered tough questions with knowledge and fluency. "Library Pie" came into its full flavor and meaning when it was presented to each Legislator, either at the Capitol or at "Library Appreciation Day" celebrations held throughout the State. Each pie was baked in a dish with a message (photo 3) and accompanied by "the facts", tastefully presented in a Recipe Book.



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Library Commission Approves 52 Grants

Proving that they were still imbued with the Christmas spirit, the members of the West Virginia Library Commission reviewed several hundred requests on file, selecting projects they felt most feasible at this time. Awards were made at their January 16th meeting.

Replace and update Circulation System for all *Western Counties* (\$20,000); books for children with reading problems and learning disabilities (\$1,500); duplicator for reproducing 3" x 5" cards in Processing Department of Cabell County (\$499.80); update and add to the Reference Collection for Putnam County (\$3,000).

Raleigh County Upgrade the Science and Technology Collection (\$3,000); develop special adult projects; college level examination program and upgrade collection to meet the Regents External Degree Program (\$4,000).

Martinsburg Update and expand the book collection (\$5,000); establish an Eastern Panhandle Room at Martinsburg-Berkeley Library and purchase of the quadrangle maps of the three-county area (\$3,000).

Bluefield Mercer County Service Center. Enlarge and replace juvenile collection and establish a small circulating library in Davy (\$6,500); construct shelving needed and paint the McDowell Public Library (\$950); update the entire book collection (\$5,000); complete an audiovisual room at Princeton Public (\$2,450); provide patrons with local newspapers on microfilm (\$5,000).

Charleston Kanawha County Library: Supplement the Extension Department book collection (\$10,000); periodicals on microfilm (\$2,000);

preservation of local history material (\$1,000); framed art reproductions (\$4,000).

Morgantown Service Center: To strengthen existing reference collection and purchase audiovisual software for Clay-Battelle (\$2,000); modernize and expand children's room at Fairmont (\$4,200); continue development of audiovisual department at Kingwood (\$3,000); purchase books for Mannington (\$2,000); purchase early childhood developmental and educational materials for Morgantown (\$3,000); extend audiovisual services for Taylor County (\$500).

Ohio County Public Library Increase the 8 mm film holdings from 60 to 100 and purchase a second projector (\$1,915).

Carnegie Public Library of Parkersburg Expand microfilm of local newspapers to include the *Parkersburg News* from 1918 to 1954 and the *Parkersburg Sentinel* from 1889 to 1948 (\$6,900). *Vienna* To buy original collection of audiovisual material for local use (\$3,750); *St. Marys* Complete building equipment (\$4,000).

Mary H. Weir Public Library To purchase adult interest, low reading level materials in Adult Basic Education Program (\$2,500); revise Community Services Directory (\$1,500); build cement block addition to Instant Library at Chester (\$3,200); install compact shelving in basement stacks (\$33,000).

Miracle Valley Regional Library, Moundsville To expand the filmstrip collection (\$3,000); to implement an AV program in Sistersville Public Library (\$280); to develop AV program in McMechen branch (\$280); to further develop AV program in New Martinsville (\$280); develop AV program in Pine Grove (\$400); develop an AV program in Cameron (\$280); develop an AV program in

Paden City (\$280); develop an AV program in Tyler County Library (\$400); upgrade the children's book collection (\$3,000); improve the Reference Collection at the Moundsville Headquarters (\$2,000); improve the young adult and adult nonfiction at Moundsville (\$3,000); upgrade the Reference Collection for New Martinsville Public Library (\$500).

Potomac Valley Regional Library, Keyser Install bookmobile at Fort Ashby as a branch library for Mineral County (\$3,000); install old bookmobile at Baker as a branch library for Hardy County (\$3,000); institute a regular mailout service to former patrons of the bookmobile (\$5,000).

Stonewall Jackson Regional Library, Buckhannon Personnel to complete card catalog at Elkins-Randolph Library (\$1,600); funds to insure operation of Five Rivers Public Library, Parsons (\$3,000); funds to supply AV equipment to 12 affiliate libraries (\$7,200); book purchases to strengthen collections of affiliates (\$10,000).

Alpha Regional Library, Spencer Update Reference Collections (\$6,574); audiovisual room in the Clay County Library (\$1,433); to subscribe to a professional microfilm service film (Union Catalog Master File) (\$440).

Book Express Office To equip a new library room in City Hall for Mullens Area Library (\$8,000).

First State-wide Trustee Institute

An innovation for the West Virginia Library Association Conference was the Trustee Institute sponsored by the Library Commission. Attendance totaled eighty-five for the Friday afternoon and Saturday morning sessions. Expenses were paid for

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one delegate from each Board of Trustees in the State.

Chapman Parsons, the Keynote Speaker from Ohio Library Association, described his watchdog activities in protecting the 58 million dollar library income from tangible taxes for Ohio's public libraries. His advice to trustees included the following comments: "The one place where decisions can be made effectively is the area of finance. Money makes things happen. You are seeing things happen here as evidenced by your library building program and the extension of library services. The highest concept, the most brilliant project seldom comes about until somehow money becomes available to make it work ...

The library trustee—true to democratic tradition of popular responsibility and possessed of the actual power to grant or withhold funds—must be prepared to engage in a continuing, never ending dialogue with his community, his fellow board members, his legislators, his local officials, and—yes—the Governor—about the purposes and functions of the library The essence of effective library service—and probably the very survival of democracy itself—lies in people who care enough to ask, to know, to plan and to fight for the survival of the free public library.

Dr. Earl Core, of Morgantown, introduced David Dalzell, Moundsville, Dorothy Muse, librarian at Parkersburg, and Barry Goldberg of the University's Bureau of Government Research.

Frances Jones, Consultant for the Library Commission, arranged the program and Frederic Glazer, Executive Director, made public library development awards to two trustees: Mrs. Mary Curtin of Clarksburg, who had served her library almost 30 years, climaxing in construction of a new city-county

library building, and Jack W. Kessler of Hurricane, who moved his library from a \$1,000 bookmobile contract to a full-fledged county library in a new building in his fifteen year's tenure. The Saturday morning program was guided by Sam Harshbarger, Chairman of the Trustees Section, representing the Cabell County Library Board. Featured speakers in this segment included Tom Potter, Charleston attorney, discussing ways of influencing legislators, and Buck Martin of Martinsburg, analyzing the Role of Trustees. Reelected for a second term were Chairman Harshbarger and Martha Trocin, Secretary, and member of the West Virginia Library Commission.

Other section chairmen selected at the conclave included Mrs. Luella Dye of Bluefield, to head Public Library Section; John Yost of Southern Community College in Williamson, to head the college section; and Marie Beckett of Kanawha County Schools, to head the school section.

Holidays in Institutional Libraries

By Elizabeth Estill

Over the holidays, the West Virginia Library Commission served the residents of our state institutions by supplying Christmas music on records and cassettes, special Christmas craft books, and stories for children in both listening and readable forms.

In the institutions with library assistants, such as Huttonsville, Huntington, Weston, Spencer, and Barboursville, the Library Commission was very much involved with the holiday celebration. Here, the library assistants supplied records of Christmas music as well as decoration ideas from the library's crafts books. Some were able to assist the recreation directors by

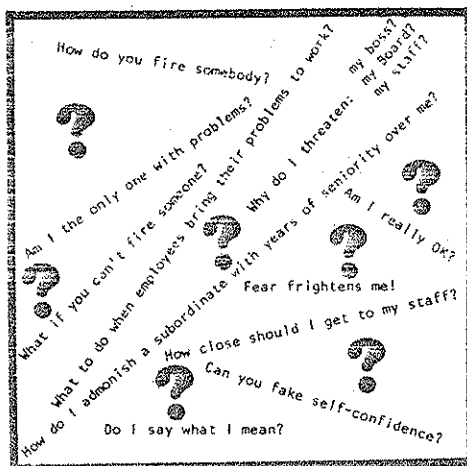
locating idea books for games and party activities. During the weeks before Christmas, Mrs. Christine Earles at Spencer and Mr. Wesley Duncan at Huttonsville held film festivals showing films borrowed from the Commission's film library.

1976 will bring several changes in some of our institution libraries. Mr. Don Hansen, library assistant at both Huntington and Barboursville, will turn his complete attention to Huntington State Hospital. Library activity decreased considerably at Barboursville over the past year due to a change in the patient population. According to Mr. Pozega, the superintendent, most patients at Barboursville now do not have the ability to concentrate for long periods of time and, therefore, cannot sustain an interest in reading. The materials the patients do appreciate are the newspapers, periodicals, and nature books containing beautiful color photographs. The Library Commission will continue to provide these to Barboursville and will continue to fill requests for special materials. Library activity at Huntington is such that a full-time library assistant is needed and Mr. Hansen will be able to strengthen the library services there.

A new project for 1976 is the establishment of a library for the Greenbrier Mental Health Center at Lewisburg where Mrs. B. J. Wilson, Director of Education, will supervise the library programs. The Commission is already sending books and records, and arrangements are being made for bookshelves, audiovisual materials, and other library equipment. Because of the physical handicaps of many of the children, this library will center around floor activities. Therefore, soft furniture such as bean bag chairs, as well as regular library furniture in varying sizes, shapes, and colors, will be ordered.

West Virginia Library Commission
2004 Quarrier Street
Charleston, West Virginia 25311

State JMRT Personnel Skills Workshop



The Junior Members Round Table of WVLA is sponsoring its first professional development workshop on the afternoon of Saturday, April third, from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m., in Charleston. Focusing on personnel skills and interpersonal relations within the framework of management, the sessions will be lead by Mrs. Betty L. Pittman, who has an M.A. in

Counseling and Guidance and is in private practice in Charleston. Mrs. Pittman is the sole Advanced Member of the International Transactional Analysis Association in West Virginia. The registration fee is \$10; enrollment is limited to 20 and the deadline for registration is March 25. For further information and/or a registration form, contact Anne Buck, 605 Bendview Drive, Charleston, West Virginia 25314.

Hamlin Sponsors Polish Paper Cutting Contest

Used for a decoration around Easter and Christmas, the Hamlin Public Library published a Polish paper cutting contest. The designs featured multi-repetitive motifs. The oldest motifs are a spruce tree, a human figure, usually repeated in rows, and a cock or a hen. The ten best entries from four high schools were displayed in the library, and a record album was awarded as first prize.

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